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Approved for use through 11/30/2007. OMB 0651-0031

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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number 09/697,557

Filing Date 10/26/2000

First Named Inventor Charles C. Freeny, Jr.

Art Unit 3621

Examiner Name John Winter

Attorney Docket Number 2551,049

ENGLOSUPES (of 1 miles)								
ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)								
	Fee Trans	smittal Form	Drawii	ng(s)			After Allowance Communication to TC	
	☐ Fe	ee Attached	Licens	sing-related Papers			Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences	
	Amendme	ent/Reply fter Final	Petition Provis	ution of POA	Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)  Proprietary Information			
	L A1	ffidavits/declaration(s)	Power of Attorney, Revocation of P Change of Correspondence Addres			,   <u>                                    </u>	Status Letter Other Enclosure(s) (please Identify	
$\sqcup$	Extension of Time Request		Termi	nal Disclaimer			below):	
	Express A	Abandonment Request	Request for Refund			Certificate of Correction		
	Informatio	on Disclosure Statement	CD, N	umber of CD(s)				
				Landscape Table on	CD			
Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)  Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53			Remarks	<ol> <li>Certificate</li> <li>Copies of</li> </ol>	or Certificate of Correction Office Comr	n (2 pa nunica	tion from Examiner, dated 12/01/2003	
CIONATURE OF ARRUSANT ATTORNEY OR AGENT								
SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT								
Firm Name		SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT  DUNLAP, CODDING & ROGERS, P.C.  Marc A. Brockhaus  (2 pages) & AME dated 11/23/2004 (26 pages); and 5. Postcard.						
Signature		mare	Bro	zbhaus	_		Of 28,	
Printe	d name	M	arc A.	Brockh	aus		OFFER VOR	
Date		02/25/20	2/25/2008				40,923 °C	

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below: \*\*\* EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV 887845725 US, DATED: 02/25/2008 \*\*\*

Signature

Marc A. Brockhaus

Date 02/25/2008

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING** 

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the process of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the process of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the process of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information of the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing the complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing

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Express Mail EV 887845725 US Date Deposited: February 25, 2008

**PATENT** 

#### IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No.: 6,970,850 B1 Serial No.: 09/697,557

Issued: 11/29/2005

Inventor: Charles C. Freeny, Jr.

Atty. Docket No.: 2551.049 Customer No.: 30589

Attn: Certificate of Correction Branch

**Commissioner for Patents** 

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

# REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF PATENT FOR PTO AND/OR APPLICANT'S MISTAKES (37 CFR 1.322(a) and 1.323)

#### Enclosed are:

		PTO-2038 Credit Card Form;
[ ]		sb17 Fee Transmittal Form;
[ X	]	sb21 Transmittal Form;
[ X	]	2 sheet(s) of form sb44 Certificate of Correction; and
ſΧ	1	pre-addressed Postal Card

## [X] PTO ERRORS

The exact column and line number where the mistakes occur in the patent as well as reference to the exact page and line number where the correct information occurs in the application file:

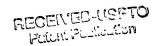
Page 2, Under "References Cited - U.S. Patent Documents" insert the missing reference
-- 5,844,808 12/1998 Konsmo et al. -(See Office Communication from Examiner, dated 12/01/2003, pg. 2 of 4 of IDS)
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In the Specification:

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- Column 5, line 41: After "customers" delete the "; " and replace with -- . -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 16, line 7).
- Column 10, line 54: After "links" delete the "; " and replace with -- . -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 32, line 13).
- Column 10, line 64: After "web-site" insert -- 30 -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 33, line 4).
- Column 12, line 42: After "customer" insert -- 15 -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 38, line 9).
- Column 14, line 13: After "local" delete " 15 ". (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 43, line 8).
- Column 21, line 67: Before "described" delete " 11 " . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 67, line 19).
- Column 26, line 63: Delete "MBISAP" and replace with -- MB/SAP -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 83, line 13).
- Column 27, line 67: After "SB" delete " + " . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 86, line 19).
- Column 29, line 27: Delete "MDMISAP" and replace with -- MDM/SAP -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 91, line 9).
- Column 29, line 32: After "requested" delete the ".". (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 91, line 12).
- Column 29, line 53: After "a" and before "MUI" delete the ".". (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 92, line 12).
- Column 30, line 5: Delete "up/date" and replace with -- up date -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 93, line 12).
- Column 31, line 38: Before "MUI" delete "V" and replace with -- v . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 98, line 6).
- Column 31, line 66: Delete "(NIA)" and replace with -- (N/A) -- . (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 99, line 12).
- Column 35, line 32; After "such" delete ": ". (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 110, line 11).



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Column 35, line 37: After "and" and before "MUI" delete the ".". (See application filed 10/26/2000, pg. 110, line 15).

In the Claims:

Column 38, line 63: Delete "second" and replace with -- first -- .

(See Amendment filed 11/23/2004, pg. 8, line 6)

Column 40, line 54: Delete "Including" and replace with -- including -- . (See Amendment filed 11/23/2004, pg. 16, line 21)

[X] No fee is submitted herewith.

#### [ ] APPLICANT'S ERRORS

It is noted that errors appear in this patent of a clerical or typographical nature or a minor character as more fully described below. These errors occurred in good faith, and correction thereof does not involve such changes in the patent as would constitute new matter or would require re-examination. Thus, a Certificate of Correction is requested.

The exact column and line number where the mistakes occur in the patent are:

[ ] Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached..

## [X] RETURN OF CERTIFICATE

Please send the Certificate of Correction to the undersigned.

Marc A. Brockhaus, Reg. No. 40,923 DUNLAP CODDING & ROGERS, P.C.

P.O. Box 16370

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73113

Telephone: 405/607-8600 Facsimile: 405/607-8686

Attorney for Applicant

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## UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page \_ 1 \_ of \_ 2

PATENT NO.

: 6,970,850 B1

APPLICATION NO.: 09/697,557

ISSUE DATE

: 11/29/2005

INVENTOR(S)

: Charles C. Freeny, Jr.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Page 2, Under "References Cited - U.S. Patent Documents" insert the missing reference - 5,844,808 12/1998 Konsmo et al. --

In the Specification:

Column 5, line 41: After "customers" delete the "; " and replace with -- . -- .

Column 10, line 54: After "links" delete the "; " and replace with - . -.

Column 10, line 64: After "web-site" insert - 30 -- .

Column 12, line 42: After "customer" insert -- 15 -- .

Column 14, line 13: After "local" delete " 15 ".

Column 21, line 67: Before "described" delete " 11 " .

Column 26, line 63: Delete "MBISAP" and replace with -- MB/SAP -- .

Column 27, line 67: After "SB" delete "+".

Column 29, line 27: Delete "MDMISAP" and replace with -- MDM/SAP -- .

Column 29, line 32: After "requested" delete the ".".

Column 29, line 53: After "a" and before "MUI" delete the ".".

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

Marc A. Brockhaus, Reg. # 40,923 Dunlap Codding & Rogers, P.C. P. O. Box 16370 Oklahoma City, OK 73113

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.322, 1.323, and 1.324. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1.0 hour to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Office.

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#### UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

Page 2 of 2

PATENT NO.

: 6,970,850 B1

APPLICATION NO.: 09/697.557

ISSUE DATE

: 11/29/2005

INVENTOR(S)

Charles C. Freeny, Jr.

It is certified that an error appears or errors appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Cont'd from the Specification:

Column 30, line 5: Delete "up/date" and replace with -- up date -- .

Column 31, line 38: Before "MUI" delete " V " and replace with - v -.

Column 31, line 66: Delete "(NIA)" and replace with -- (N/A) -- .

Column 35, line 32; After "such" delete ":".

Column 35, line 37: After "and" and before "MUI" delete the ".".

In the Claims:

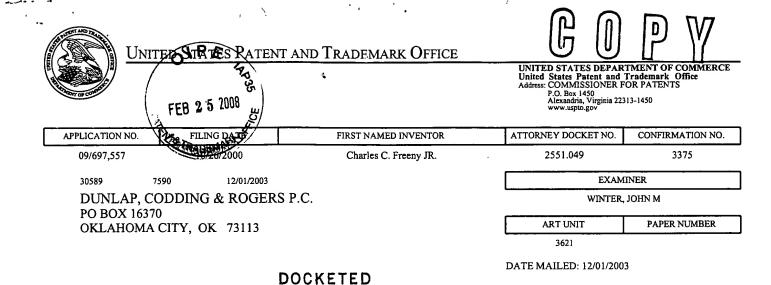
Column 38, line 63: Delete "second" and replace with -- first --.

Column 40, line 54: Delete "Including" and replace with -- including -- .

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER (Please do not use customer number below):

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE of the tequired to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number. INFORMATION DISCLOS Complete if Known CAT & TRA **Application Number** 09/697,557 10/26/2000 Filing Date STATEMENT BY First Named Inventor Charles C. Freeny, Jr. Group Art Unit 2131 (use as many sheets as necessary) Unknown **Examiner Name** 

ſ			-	U.S. PATENT DOCU	MENTS	· · ·
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. Patent Document  Kind Code <sup>2</sup> Number (if known)		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
94		5,557,730		Frid-Nielsen	09/17/1996	
		5,559,728		Kowalski et al.	09/24/1996	
		5,564,048		Eick et al.	10/08/1996	
		5,572,643		Judson	11/05/1996	
		5,572,984		Alden et al.	11/12/1996	
		5,615,346		Gerken	03/25/1997	
		5,285,382		Muehlberger et al.	02/08/1994	
		5,648,.906		Amirpanahi	07/15/1997	
$\Box$		5,753,899		Gomm et al.	05/19/1998	
	, i	5,844,808		Konsmo et al.	12/01/1998	
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Attorney Docket Number

2551.049

				FORE	IGN PATENT DOCUMENT	rs		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or	Date of Publication of	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant	
		Office <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	Applicant of Cited Document	Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sub>6</sub>
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Examiner	Date // / / / >
Signature	Considered ////00/03

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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if preference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Unique citation designation number. 2 See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial code (WIPO Standard ST.3). \* For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the solid.

number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 ft. possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.



PRESS MAIL NO.: EV 425999221 US

Deposited On:

November 23, 2004

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. :

09/697,557

Confirmation No.: 3375

Applicant(s)

Freeny, Charles C. Jr.

**Filed** 

October 26, 2000

TC/A.U.

3621

**Examiner** 

**John Winter** 

Title

PROXIMITY SERVICE PROVIDER SYSTEM

Docket No.

2551.049

Customer No.

30589

**MS Office of Publications Query and Correspondence Branch** Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.312

Sir:

Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312, Applicant hereby requests entry of the following corrections in the above-referenced application, prior to payment of the Issue Fee.

Amendment to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 25 of this paper.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## **Amendments to the Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for managing a plurality of proximity service systems, comprising the steps of:

storing in a proximity service provider computer system a plurality of proximity service codes, each proximity service code being uniquely associated with one or more proximity service systems, each proximity service system providing a predetermined service in response to receiving an authorization code from a proximity authorization unit;

providing access to the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system to a customer;

receiving from the customer the customer's selection of one or more of
the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider
computer system by inputting a customer code uniquely identifying
the particular customer and an identification of the selected
proximity service codes;

system a proximity authorization code uniq3ue unique to the customer for the selected proximity service code and unique for the selected proximity authorization unit and a system customer code uniquely identifying the customer, the proximity authorization code permitting the customer to operate proximity service systems associated with the proximity service code by outputting the proximity authorization code by the customer using the customer's proximity authorization unit for activating one of the proximity service systems associated with the selected proximity service codes to provide the predetermined service; and

receiving information, by the proximity service provider computer system, from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems, wherein at least some of the proximity service systems are owned by a first owner, and at least some of the proximity service systems are owned by a second owner, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of outputting a statement for the first owner indicative of usage of the proximity

service systems owned by the first owner, and outputting a statement for the second owner indicative of usage of the proximity service systems owned by the second owner.

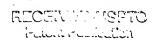
2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: displaying to the customer a list of proximity authorization units by the proximity service provider computer system that are available to authorize the proximity service systems associated with the

selected proximity service codes; and

receiving from the customer the customer's selection of at least one of the displayed proximity authorization units.

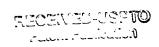
- 3. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of establishing the proximity service provider computer system as a web site on the Internet.
- 4. (previously canceled) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of receiving information, by the proximity service provider computer system, from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems.

- 5. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of collecting money from a third party based on the information received by the proximity service provider computer system indicating usage of the proximity service systems; and placing the money into a predetermined account of an owner of at least some of the proximity service systems.
- 6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein the third party is a legacy card company.
- 7. (previously canceled) The method of claim 4, wherein at least some of the proximity service systems are owned by a first owner, and at least some of the proximity service systems are owned by a second owner, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of outputting a statement for the first owner indicative of usage of the proximity service systems owned by the first owner, and outputting a statement for the second owner indicative of usage of the proximity service systems owned by the second owner.
- 8. (previously amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of outputting a statement for each customer identified by the proximity



authorization codes received by the proximity service provider computer system indicating usage of the proximity service systems.

- 9. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein in the step of outputting the statement, the statement includes the location of the proximity service systems providing the predetermined services, the amounts paid, and the dates of the providing of the predetermined services.
- 10. (canceled) The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of outputting a statement for each customer identified by the proximity authorization codes received by the proximity service provider computer system indicating usage of the proximity service systems.
- 11. (canceled) The method of claim 10, wherein in the step of outputting the statement, the statement includes the location of the proximity service systems providing the predetermined services, the amounts paid, and the dates of the providing of the predetermined services.
- 12. (currently amended) A method for managing a plurality of proximity service systems, comprising the steps of:



storing in a proximity service provider computer system a plurality of proximity service codes, each proximity service code being uniquely associated with one or more proximity service systems, each proximity service system providing a predetermined service in response to receiving an authorization code from a proximity authorization unit;

providing access to the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system to a customer;

receiving from the customer the customer's selection of one or more of the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system by inputting a customer code uniquely identifying the particular customer and an identification of the selected proximity service codes;

system a proximity authorization code unique to the customer for the selected proximity service code and unique for the selected proximity authorization unit and a system customer code uniquely identifying the customer, the proximity authorization codepermitting code permitting the customer to operate proximity service systems associated with the proximity service code by outputting the proximity authorization code by the customer using

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the customer's proximity authorization unit for activating one of the proximity service systems associated with the selected proximity service codes to provide the predetermined service;

providing access to the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system to a first operator;

receiving from [[a]] the first operator the first operator's selection of one or more of the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system by inputting an identification of the selected proximity service codes;

providing access to the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system to a second operator;

receiving from [[a]] the second operator the second operator's selection of one or more of the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system by inputting an identification of the selected proximity service codes;

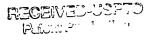
receiving information, by the proximity service provider computer system, from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems; and

outputting a statement for the first operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the first operator, and outputting a statement for the second operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the second operator.

13. (previously canceled) The method of claim 12, further comprising the step of receiving information, by the proximity service provider computer system, from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems.

14. (previously canceled) The method of claim 13, wherein at least some of the proximity service systems are registered to be operated by a first operator, and at least some of the proximity service systems are registered to be operated by a second operator, and wherein the method further comprises the steps of outputting a statement for the first operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the first operator, and outputting a statement for the second operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the second operator.

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15. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the proximity service systems are selected from a group of proximity service systems comprising access services, vending machine services, vehicle services, meter services, audio and/or video communication services, and toll services.

16. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein an owner of the proximity service provider computer system guarantees payment to an owner of at least one of the proximity service systems when the proximity service system owned by the owner is operated by a proximity authorization code provided to the customer by the proximity service provider computer system.

17. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein in the step of storing in the proximity service provider computer system the plurality of proximity service codes, the proximity service provider computer system is defined further as a plurality of Web sites established on the Internet.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein in the step of storing in the proximity service provider computer system the plurality of proximity service codes, each of the Web sites is directed to providing services for at least one type of proximity service system selected from the group comprising access

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services, vending machines services, vehicle services, meter services, audio and/or video communications services, and toll services.

- 19. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

  providing access to a plurality of individualized predetermined payment methods to the customer;
  - receiving from the customer the customer's selection of one or more of the individualized predetermined payment methods.
- 20. (previously amended) A method for managing a plurality of proximity service systems, comprising the steps of:
  - storing in a proximity service provider computer system a plurality of proximity service codes, each proximity service code being uniquely associated with one or more proximity service systems, each proximity service system providing a predetermined service in response to receiving an authorization code from a proximity authorization unit;
  - providing access to a plurality of individualized predetermined payment methods to the customer;
  - receiving from the customer the customer's selection of one or more of
    the individualized predetermined payment methods;

providing access to the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system to a customer based on the customer's selection of the individualized predetermined payment methods;

receiving from the customer the customer's selection of one or more of the proximity service codes stored in the proximity service provider computer system by inputting a customer code uniquely identifying the particular customer and an identification of the selected proximity service codes; and

system a proximity authorization code unique to the customer for the selected proximity service code and unique for the selected proximity authorization unit and a system customer code uniquely identifying the customer, the proximity authorization code permitting the customer to operate proximity service systems associated with the proximity service code by outputting the proximity authorization code by the customer using the customer's proximity authorization unit for activating one of the proximity service systems associated with the selected proximity service codes to provide the predetermined service.

- 21. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of: providing access to a plurality of individualized predetermined payment methods to an owner of proximity service systems; and receiving from the owner of the owner's selection of one or more of the individualized predetermined payment methods.
- 22. (original) The method of claim 21, wherein at least one of the individualized predetermined payment methods are PSPS cyber card codes for permitting local authorization of transactions at the proximity service system.
- 23. (original) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of outputting a cyber card code to be at least one of incorporated into and stored by selected proximity service systems associated with the owner.
- 24. (previously canceled) A method for authorizing a proximity service system to provide a predetermined service without obtaining remote authorization for each transaction, comprising the steps of:
  - storing, by the proximity service system, a service provider identification number and a cipher algorithm;
  - receiving, by the proximity service system, a customer access cyber card code;

- processing, by the proximity service system, the customer access cyber card code with the cipher algorithm to produce a code;
- comparing, by the proximity service system, the service provider identification number with the code; and
- providing, by the proximity service system, the predetermined service if the service provider identification number corresponds with the code in a predetermined manner.
- 25. (currently amended) A local authorization system comprising:
  - a plurality of proximity authorization units, each proximity authorization unit capable of storing and outputting a unique request authorization code;
  - a proximity service provider providing a unique request authorization code to each of the proximity authorization units and each of the proximity authorization units storing the request authorization code provided by the proximity service provider, the request authorization code including a proximity service provider code and a customer code, the proximity service provider code uniquely identifying the proximity service provider providing the request authorization code to the proximity authorization unit and the customer code uniquely identifying a particular customer, the

request authorization codes provided to the proximity authorization units being encrypted with a private key associated with the proximity service provider;

a plurality of proximity service units, each proximity service unit providing a predetermined service when activated in response to receiving and validating the request authorization code from one of the proximity authorization units, each proximity service unit receiving and storing a public key and the proximity service provider code from the proximity service provider, each proximity service unit validating each request authorization code received from one of the proximity authorization units by decrypting the request authorization codes with the public key and comparing the proximity service provider code received by the proximity service unit from the proximity service provider with the proximity service provider code decrypted from the request authorization codes received from the proximity authorization units, the proximity sedrvice service unit providing the predetermined service upon matching the proximity service provider code received by the proximity service unit with the proximity service provider code decrypted from the request authorization code received from the proximity authorization unit.

26. (Previously amended) A proximity service provider system for managing a plurality of proximity service systems, the proximity service provider system comprising:

at least one PSPS Web site established on the Internet, the PSPS Web site comprising:

an owner database server receiving an owner's offering of proximity service systems, including a physical location for each proximity service system, a payment method for each proximity service system and a financial location for depositing money collected from usage of the proximity service systems, each of the proximity service systems being identified by a stored proximity service code, the payment method selected by the owner for each proximity service system serving as a predetermined payment method for the particular proximity service system;

a customer database server permitting a customer to select proximity service systems identified by the stored proximity service codes in the owner database server, the customer database server receiving a customer's selection of proximity service systems offered by the owner of the proximity service systems, the customer's selection including.

a selection of a payment method from the predetermined payment methods for each proximity service system selected by the customer; and further wherein the PSPS Web Site is constructed by a method comprising the steps of:

providing a master operating software system designed by the steps of:

two axes with the system application programs being represented on one of the axes, and user requirement elements for providing services to at least two of users of proximity services, owners of proximity services and financial services being represented by another one of the axes, the system application programs each defining a particular technology, and each of the user requirement elements defining a particular user requirement;

locating one unique intersection point between each of the user requirement elements

represented on one of the axes and the system application programs represented by another one of the axes in the design matrix; and

for each intersection point, each technology converter requirement using the system application program at each intersection point to develop an output satisfying the user requirement element at the corresponding intersection point.

27. (previously canceled) The proximity service provider system of claim 26, wherein the PSPS Web Site is constructed by a method comprising the steps of: providing a master operating software system designed by the steps of: providing, first, a design matrix having at least two axes with the system application programs being represented on one of the axes, and user requirement elements for providing services to at least two of users of proximity services, owners of proximity services, operators of proximity services and financial services being represented by another one of the axes, the system application programs each defining a particular

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technology, and each of the user requirement elements defining a particular user requirement;

locating one unique intersection point between each of the user requirement elements represented on one of the axes and the system application programs represented by another one of the axes in the design matrix; and

developing a technology converter requirement for each intersection point,
each technology converter requirement using the system application
program at each intersection point to develop an output satisfying the
user requirement element at the corresponding intersection point.

28. (original) The proximity service provider system of claim 26, wherein the owner database server receives information from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems.

29. (original) The proximity service provider system of claim 28, further FEB 2.8 2008 comprising the steps of collecting money from a third party based on the information received by the owner database server indicating usage of the

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proximity service systems; and placing the money into the financial location designated by the owner of at least some of the proximity service systems.

30. (original) The proximity service provider system of claim 29, wherein the third party is a legacy card company.

31. (currently amended) A proximity service provider system for managing a plurality of proximity service systems, the proximity service provider system comprising:

at least one PSPS Web site established on the Internet, the PSPS Web site comprising:

an owner database server receiving a first owner's offering of proximity service systems, including a physical location for each proximity service system, a payment method for each proximity service system and a financial location for depositing money collected from usage of the proximity service systems, each of the proximity service systems offered by the first owner being identified by a stored proximity service code, the payment method selected by the first owner for each proximity service system serving as a predetermined payment method for the particular proximity

service system, and receiving a second owner's offering, the owner database server receiving a second owner's offering of proximity service systems, including a physical location for each proximity service system, a payment method for each proximity service system and a financial location for depositing money collected from usage of the proximity service systems, each of the proximity service systems offered by the second owner being identified by a stored proximity service code, the payment method selected by the second owner for each proximity service system serving as a predetermined payment method for the particular proximity service system;

a customer database server permitting a customer to select proximity service systems identified by the stored proximity service codes in the owner database server, the customer database server receiving a customer's selection of proximity service systems offered by the owner of the proximity service systems, the customer's selection including a selection of a payment method from the predetermined payment methods for each proximity service system selected by the customer's

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wherein the owner database server receives information from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems; and

wherein the owner database server outputs a statement for the first owner indicative of usage of the proximity service systems owned by the first owner, and outputs a statement for the second owner indicative of usage of the proximity service systems owned by the second owner.

- 32. (previously amended) The proximity service provider system of claim 31, wherein the customer database server outputs a statement for each customer identified by the proximity authorization codes received by the owner database server indicating usage of the proximity service systems.
- 33. (previously amended) The proximity service provider system of claim 31, further comprising an operator database server permitting an operator to select proximity service systems identified by the stored proximity service code in the owner database server.

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34. (original) The proximity service provider system of claim 33, wherein the operator database server receives information from the proximity service systems indicating usage of the proximity service systems, the information including proximity authorization codes identifying the customers using the proximity service systems, and proximity service codes identifying the proximity service systems.

35. (previously canceled) The proximity service provider system of claim 34, wherein at least some of the proximity service systems are registered to be operated by a first operator, and at least some of the proximity service systems are registered to be operated by a second operator, and wherein the operator database server outputs a statement for the first operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the first operator, and outputs a statement for the second operator indicative of usage of the proximity service systems operated by the second operator.

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36. (previously amended) The proximity service provider system of claim 31, wherein the proximity service systems are selected from a group of proximity.

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services, meter services, audio and/or video communication services, and toll services.

#### **REMARKS**

This amendment is submitted under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 prior to payment of the issue fee. Claims 1, 12, 25 and 31 have been amended to correct typographical errors in the claims, which were discovered during a final proofreading of the application. Claim 12 has also been amended to reflect proper antecedent basis in the claim. Further, claims 10 and 11 have been cancelled because they are repetitive of the subject matter claimed in claims 8 and 9.

No substantive changes have been made in the application. Such amendments do not introduce any new matter requiring an additional search by the Examiner, and will not create a burden on the Examiner. Therefore, Applicant respectfully requests that such amendments be entered into the record.

## **Conclusion**

Should the Examiner have any questions or comments concerning the before-mentioned amendments to the application or any other matter, Applicant's agent will welcome the opportunity to discuss the same with the Examiner.

# Respectfully submitted,

Marc A. Brockhaus, Reg. No. 40,923 Customer No. 30589 DUNLAP, CODDING & ROGERS, P.C. P.O. Box 16370 Oklahoma City, OK 73113 (405) 607-8600 - telephone (405) 607-8686 - telefax

Attorney for Applicant(s)